

Remarks

In the present response, claims 1-22 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,717,648 (Davis) in view of US publication number 2002/0167829 (Friedman). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Each of the independent claims recites numerous recitations that are not taught or suggested in Davis in view of Friedman. By way of example, claim 1 recites a cache that includes separate entities of a read cache and a write cache. Davis and Friedman do not disclose or even suggest a cache that has both a read cache and a write cache that are integrated on a substrate and separate entities. As another example, claim 10 recites that the decoder is separate from the cache and integrated on the substrate. By contrast, the decoder in Davis is part of the cache (see Davis at Fig. 3 element 170). Further, Davis and Friedman do not disclose or even suggest that three elements of cache, decoder, and memory cell array are integrated on the same substrate and separate entities that are coupled together. As yet another example, claim 19 recites a cache that includes a read cache and a write cache. Davis and Friedman do not disclose or even suggest a cache that has both a read cache and a write cache. Further, claim 19 recites "a selection circuit integrated on the substrate and implementing a conflict resolution scheme for the read and write caches." Davis and Friedman do not disclose or even suggest such a selection circuit.

For at least these reasons, the claims are allowable over Davis in view of Friedman.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. 832-236-5529. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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